

പുറം സംസാരം കയ്യെടുത്തു. ഇതിന്റെ വില ഇത്രയുള്ളതെന്ന് വന്നാൽപിന്നെ എല്ലാവരുടേയും തീർച്ചപോലെ നടക്കട്ടെ എന്നു ഞാനും കരുതുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഇതിൽ എനിയ്ക്കുള്ള കൃതാർത്ഥതയെന്താണെന്നു വെച്ചാൽ വരാൻപോകുന്ന വിഷയം മുൻകൂട്ടി പറഞ്ഞു കഴിഞ്ഞല്ലോ എന്നുള്ളതാണ്. ഇങ്ങിനെയാകട്ടെ സർവ്വരോട് നിലവാരത്തിനു കൃഷ്ടം—യുക്തമായ പ്രവർത്തനം—കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചതിൽ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനേയും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരേയും ഞാൻ അനുമോദിക്കുന്നു. ആയുർക്കാലപ്രവർത്തനം ഉപയോഗിച്ച് ആയുരോഗാസമ്പൽ സമൃദ്ധിയോടുകൂടി ചികിത്സാ വാഴ്ചയും, ഇനിമേലിൽ വർദ്ധനവുണ്ടാകുന്ന ലിംഗമൂലം പ്രസരണം കാരണമായി വന്നുവരുന്ന ഞാൻ ജനകീയാഭിരുചി പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കട്ടെ. ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ പരിവർത്തിപ്പിക്കാൻ അനുവാദം ലഭിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Resolution was with leave, withdrawn.

12. Elephantiasis and Hydrocele diseases in the State.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—May I know whether the Rockefeller Institute would undertake the work?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I am not sure whether the Rockefeller Institute would take up the responsibility for investigating into this matter. Any how we have addressed them.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—I do not move.

Hence the following resolution was considered withdrawn.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—*This Council recommends to the Government to ask the Director of Public Health to investigate the disease of elephantiasis and hydrocele in the State with a view to find out ways of preventing and remedying the diseases.*

As the following resolutions were not moved they were also considered withdrawn.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan.—*This Council recommends to the Government to take immediate steps to widen the scope of the Government Aided Industrial Schools so as the pupils coming out of such institutions may be found to be fit to earn their livelihood.*

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*That this Council recommends to the Government that no Judicial officer be appointed Diwan of the State.*

13. Proclamation abolishing untouchability.

Mr E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I move the resolution standing in my name. It runs thus:—“This Council recommends to the Government to issue a Proclamation abolishing untouchability in the State”. The subject matter of this resolution had been discussed in this Council more than once and if I remember right the Government had promised to consider.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—They had accepted it.

Mr. Elkkanda Warriar.—Yes; they had accepted it and had promised us that they would urge His Highness the Maharaja to issue the necessary Proclamation. Unfortunately it was not done and I do not think anything has transpired between that date and to-day to make this point clearer to the Government. In fact we do not know why the Government has not done anything further in that matter. The resolution aims at the abolition of legal untouchability. The evil effects of this obnoxious custom is so familiar to all of us. The only thing is that perhaps most of us are not really alive to the great injustices that we are doing to a large section of our public whom we were treating so heartlessly for such a long time. Efforts are made in this direction all over India; and a real awakening has taken place and even the so-called Caste-Hindus, I can make bold to say, the large majority of them, would now admit the injustice that they are doing to a large section of the Hindu public. It may be that there is a small section of the orthodox people amongst us. There will always be such persons and it will not be possible for any of us to get the consent of all these people. The Government has simply to ascertain the real public opinion in this matter and then act boldly, regardless of the consequences and keeping in view the justice they are doing in this matter. I do not think that I should dilate upon this subject any further because I hope and feel that this resolution will not be opposed by any of the Hon'ble Members here. I think no body in this House has stood in the way of this resolution before. If there is anybody who objects to it and if I have anything to say, I will reserve it for my reply. With these few words, I commend this resolution for the acceptance of this House.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, I second this resolution. In seconding this resolution I beg to invite the attention of this House to the fact that this is a resolution which was passed here twice, once in the shape of a resolution and on another occasion as a cut motion in the budget session, and the Government had also accepted the motion. In the last Council a few questions were asked by some of the Members for information about the communication that has passed between the Government and His Highness about a Proclamation that has to be issued by His Highness. No answer was given on the ground that the communication passing between His Highness and the Government will not be disclosed. At any rate it is evident that the country is prepared for this step and the people are insisting upon such a move being taken by the Government, as illustrated from the fact that this House has passed this resolution a number of times without any opposition. We found

in our neighbouring country a referendum was taken some time back and the majority of the people were even for allowing all people to enter even temples. This is only a very modest resolution when compared with that; and we request only that untouchability be removed from the State. Even the fact that a necessity arises for bringing in such a resolution in this House is a stain on the reputation of an advanced State like Cochin. It does not speak very well for our Government. I therefore request that we shall not lose any more time to effect this reform and that we shall not give occasion for another opportunity to bring forward such a resolution in this House. The Government will do very well to carry into effect the spirit of this resolution immediately.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—May I know what action the Government has taken on the previous resolution and at what stage it is at present?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The matter is only under consideration.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Consideration in what shape?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The question has taken an all India turn. We should watch the developments that are happening outside, before we take any further action.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have you sent the resolution to the departmental heads?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No. There is no necessity for it.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Then how have you been considering it?

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Has any representation been made to His Highness the Maharaja?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It has already been explained that this House should not press for the details of the correspondence between His Highness and the Government.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Sir, there has been a ruling here that the fact of having made a representation or not could be asked. We do not want the details. We want only to know whether any representation has been made.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There has been a correspondence on this subject between the Huzur and His Highness' office.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—For how many years has this been under the consideration of Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The first cut motion was passed in the year 1105.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sir, there is an amendment standing in my name. It is to delete the word

'Untouchability' and to substitute "Unapproachability in public places."

Untouchability എന്നു പറയുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ഒരാളെ തൊടുക എന്നുള്ള അർത്ഥമാണ് ഉള്ളത്. സമീപത്തു വരുക എന്നുള്ളതും തൊടുക എന്നുള്ളതും തമ്മിൽ വളരെ ചൂത്യാസമുണ്ട്. ഈ രസലുഷൻ അനുസരിച്ച് ഏതുകൊണ്ട് നോക്കിയാലും ചില വിഷമങ്ങളെല്ലാം വ്യവഹരിക്കേണ്ടത്. ഒരു കുളം എല്ലാവർക്കും തൊടാം എന്നു വെച്ചാൽ അതിൽ ചില വിഷമങ്ങളൊക്കെ വരും. സമീപത്തിൽ കൂടി പോകാൻ വരോധമില്ല. കുളങ്ങളുടെ സമീപത്തു കൂടി അധിനിവേശം ഉള്ള ആളുകൾ പോയാൽ ആ കുളം അശുദ്ധമാകുമെന്നാണ് ഖേതം. അതുമാത്രം നീക്കം ചെയ്യാൽ മതി. Untouchability എന്നു പറയുമ്പോൾ തൊടാമെന്നും കൂടി അർത്ഥം വരുന്നു. അതായത് ഈ ഭേദഗതി വരുത്തിയാൽ വലിയ ലഹളകൾ ഒന്നും കൂടാതെ കഴിവും കാര്യവും നടക്കും അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള പ്രാക്ടിക്കലായ ഒരു രസലുഷനായിട്ടാണ് ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ വിലാസിക്കുന്നത്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ ഭേദഗതി കൂടി ചേർക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നത്.

Deputy President.—As the amendment has not been seconded by anybody, I declare that it is lost.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is it necessary that the amendments should be seconded?

Deputy President.—Yes.

The amendment was therefore declared lost.

Rama Vamha Tampuran.—Sir, I have not much more to add. Government are quite aware that this House has taken a definite attitude on the subject on more than one occasion. A token cut was passed and a resolution was also passed on the subject and also one Hon'ble Member has sent in a Bill for the same. Therefore Government are quite aware of the definite attitude taken by the House. As I said a few minutes ago this question has taken an all India turn. In the light of that this Government cannot precipitate any action. A Bill has also been introduced in the Assembly for the same purpose. I hope all the Hon'ble Members are aware of the great amount of consideration the Imperial Government bestowed on the matter even before they granted sanction to introduce the Bill. They may also be aware of the agitation that are carried on in British India both for and against this movement. In view of these circumstances it will certainly be very unwise, from a practical point of view, for any administration to precipitate action. It is especially with this point of view that our Government are hesitating to take any definite step in the matter. They would rather wait and see the developments that are happening outside before they commit themselves to any definite action on the

subject. It is not quite a simple matter as it might look during a the retical discussion. Government has already received several petitions from the other side of the party protesting against any move to remove unapproachability or untouchability or other allied practices. Therefore it is not at all a matter free from controversy. It is a matter pregnant with so many possible unexpected turns and therefore it will not be a bad policy at all if Government were to wait for some time more and watch the developments elsewhere before they come to conclusions. Under these circumstances Government are not in a position to accept the resolution at present.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—From whom have the Government received petitions?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There is a section of people of His Highness' subjects who are opposed to the removal of the existing condition of things and we have received petitions from such people.

Ms. Joseph Pettah.—How many such petitions have been received?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We have received something like 3 or 4 petitions.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—What will be the total number of signatories?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think a very large number. There is no use going by the number of signatories.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Are we to understand that the Government are watching events in British India and that they will do what the British Government is going to do there?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That I cannot promise, but we will certainly be watching the course of events there.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is this Government not in a position to take any action independently of the British Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Certainly we have got the power but we do not want to take any action without ascertaining the course of events there.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—May I know whether the Government are watching the course of events happening in the Native States?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government are also aware of what has happened in some Native States.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ഈ വശത്തു ഇതന്നെ പറയാൻ അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസം വരുമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അയ്യത്തോളമാണ് വിളംബരം പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കാനുള്ള കൗൺസിലിന്റെ അപേക്ഷ മഹാരാജാവിനെ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് അറിയിക്കാൻ ആദ്യം ഒന്നും ചെയ്തിരിക്കയില്ല. മഹാരാജാവുമായി നടത്തുന്ന എടുത്തുകയറ്റം

ലെ സംഗതികളെ പറ്റി ചോദിച്ച കൂടെക്കിലും എഴുത്തുകത്തുകൾ ഉണ്ടായോ ഇല്ലയോ എന്ന വാദം ചോദിക്കാമെന്നു ഒരു ruling ഇതയിടയിൽ ഉണ്ടായശേഷം മാത്രമായരിക്കണം ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഈ കാര്യത്തെ പറ്റി വാസ്തവത്തിൽ ആലോചിക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയത്. അതിന് മുമ്പ് ആലോചിക്കുന്നു എന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു വാസ്തവമായിരിക്കയില്ല. 'ഇതു അധികം കാലത്തെ ആലോചന ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ആവശ്യമായില്ലല്ലോ. ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇന്ത്യാ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് എന്തു ചെയ്യുന്നു എന്നു കണ്ടശേഷം വല്ലതും ചെയ്യാമെന്നുവെച്ചു ഗവണ്മെന്റ് കാത്തിരിക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. അയിത്തത്തിന് ശക്തി കൂടുന്നതു തെക്കോട്ടു വരുന്നുമാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് അയിത്ത കാര്യത്തിൽ ഞാൻ തീരുമാനം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതു് ഇവിടെയാണ്. എന്നുതന്നെയല്ല ഇന്ത്യാ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വലിയ പ്രയാസവുമുണ്ടായരിക്കും. മതകാര്യത്തിൽ തലയിട്ടു ഏതു പറഞ്ഞു ജനങ്ങൾ വഴക്കുണ്ടാക്കുമെന്ന ഭയം അവർക്കുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട് അദ്ദേഹം ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വലിയ ഉത്സാഹം കാണിക്കയില്ല. നമ്മുടെ മഹാരാജാവ് ഒരു വാളുംബരം പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചാൽ അങ്ങനെയുള്ള വാഷമെന്നൊന്നും വരില്ല. ക്ഷേത്ര പ്രവേശന വാദം ശക്തിയായി നടക്കുന്ന ഈ കാലത്തു ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഔദാസീനം കാണിക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ദിവാൻജിക്ക് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വാഷമുള്ളതു ഞാൻ വിസ്മരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റ് മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരും സെക്രട്ടറിയും ദിവാൻജിക്ക് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വേണ്ട ധൈര്യം കൊടുക്കുകയാണ്, അല്ലാതെ അവർ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ വാഷമങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞു ഭയപ്പെടുത്തുകയല്ല, വേണ്ടതു്.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I too have not much to say except to express my regret that an enlightened Hindu Maharaja like ours should watch what is taking place in British India instead of doing it himself. I think it is pre-eminently a case in which we should lead public opinion in this matter. I understand that our Maharaja is also our religious head. So he will be the most competent person to give a lead in this matter. Instead of waiting and seeing what British India does, I would again request the Government to convey to His Highness the sincere desire of the public of Cochin, as represented by this Council, to give his consent for a proclamation abolishing untouchability in the State. When a question of doing justice to the people comes and when it is really understood in its proper perspective, it is unnecessary to wait and see what others do. Did not our Maharaja abolish slavery in the State? Were there not people who were opposed to it? Did His Highness care for them? No. By a stroke of his pen he abolished slavery. This is another form of slavery, though not called slavery. This is a worst form of slavery itself. It is only to bring to the notice of the Government once again and also to His Highness,

through the Government, that I have brought this resolution now. I wish this House to unanimously support me in this matter. I therefore request that the matter may be put to a division.

Resolution put and carried.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—A poll, Sir.

The House divided—Ayes 20, Noes 10 and Neutrals 3.

Ayes.

- 1 Mr. K Ayyappan
- 2 „ M A Chakko
- 3 „ A Eachara Menon
- 4 „ K G Nayar
- 5 „ K M Ibrahim
- 6 „ E Ikkanda Warriar
- 7 „ Joseph Pettah
- 8 „ P S Kesavan Nambudiri
- 9 „ T K Nayar
- 10 „ P Kumaran Ezhuthassan

- 11 Mr. K T Mathew
- 12 „ A I Mani
- 13 „ C A Ouseph
- 14 „ Paul Mampilli
- 15 „ T A Ramachandra Ayyar
- 16 Dr. A R Menon
- 17 Mr. M K Raman
- 18 „ A Sankara Poduval
- 19 „ K P Vallon
- 20 „ P C Virkey

Noes.

- 1 Mr. K Achyuta Menon
- 2 „ M P Cherian
- 3 „ C J Mathew
- 4 „ I N Menon
- 5 „ P Nilakanta Menon

- 6 Mr. M D Narayana Ayyar
- 7 „ T Narayana Menon
- 8 Dr. D Raghavendra Rao
- 9 Rama Varmha Tampuran
- 10 Mr. P V Raphael

Neutrals.

- 1 Mr. C Barton Wright
- 2 „ C N Ittiravi Nambudiri
- 3 „ P Krishna Menon

As the following resolution was not moved it was considered withdrawn.

മിസ്റ്റർ. കെ. പി. വള്ളോൻ.—തൃശ്ശിവപേരൂർതടങ്ങിട്ടുള്ള അധഃകൃത ഹോസ്റ്റലിൽ ഒരു ക്ലാക്കിനെക്കൂടി നിയമിക്കുവാൻ ഈ സഭ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനോടു ഇപ്രകാരം ചെയ്യുകയുള്ളൂ.

14. Adequate Supply of Drinking water to Nemmara.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Sir, I only want to know whether the Government are making arrangements to have the supply of water to the entire public of Nemmara during the summer season, over and above the taps now existing.

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—We are not in a position to add to the number of taps existing, as I have already explained yesterday. Even for the existing taps the water supply is not sufficient. Steps are being taken and, I believe, are nearing completion by this time, whereby we hope that the present number of taps will be supplying water at good pressure. That is all I am in a position to say now. I cannot say now whether we will be able to add to the number of taps.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Will the extension of pipes be taken into consideration if there is a sufficient supply of water?